

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 029946
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029946

EXDIS//FOR AMBASSADOR FROM DUBS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (DAOUD, MOHAMMAD), AF, US

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PRESIDENT DAOUD TO THE UNITED STATES

REF: KABUL 0921

1. THE SCHEDULE OF STATE VISITS TO THE U.S. IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW AT THE WHITE HOUSE. IT WAS USEFUL TO HAVE YOU ALERT FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH THAT IT WAS LIKELY THAT SOME VISITS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR WOULD HAVE TO BE POSTPONED TO LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT.

2. WE WILL INFORM YOU WHEN ANY DECISION INVOLVING DAOUD IS MADE. IN THE MEANTIME, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT AFGHAN AMBASSADOR KARIM CALLED ON TOM THORNTON ON JANUARY 25 TO PROBE REGARDING THE TIMING OF A VISIT BY DAOUD. RECOGNIZING THAT THE VISIT MIGHT BE POSTPONED, KARIM TALKED HOPEFULLY ABOUT A VISIT LATER IN 1978. NO COMMITMENT WAS MADE BY
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THORNTON. INTERESTINGLY, HOWEVER, KARIM SET FORTH THE AFGHAN FALLBACK POSITION AS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY BOTH SIDES THAT AN INVITATION HAD BEEN TENDERED AND ACCEPTED. ACCORDING TO KARIM, THIS WOULD TAKE CARE OF DAOUD'S NEED TO BE SEEN AS BEING APPRECIATED IN WASHINGTON. IF THE

VISIT IS IN FACT POSTPONED FROM THE FIRST HALF OF THIS
YEAR, WE WILL CERTAINLY MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MEET THE
AFGHAN FALLBACK POSITION. VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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